



PRESS RELEASE

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

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April 6, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ROOSEVELT INSTITUTE RECEIVES SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES GRANT

HYDE PARK, NY -- The Roosevelt Institute has received a \$200,000 grant from the Department of Interior, National Park Service (NPS) through the Save America's Treasures (SAT) grant program to support the preservation and rehabilitation of FDR's Study, Oval Office, and White House Collections in the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum in Hyde Park, New York. The project will conserve, rehouse, reinterpret, and reinstall the collections used by Franklin D. Roosevelt in the Study of his Presidential Library, in the Oval Office, and in the White House residence. Most of these collections have been on exhibit for more than 65 years in harsh environmental conditions.

Dr. Cynthia M. Koch, Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, said, "We are thrilled to receive this funding from Save America's Treasures for the conservation of these important collections. This work will go hand-in-hand with the redesign of the museum's permanent exhibits, creating a new state-of-the-art experience on the life and times of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. The Save America's Treasure grant, along with the ongoing support of the Roosevelt Institute, will help us continue to sustain the FDR Library as the most important center for the study and teaching of the Roosevelt era in the world."

The greatest artifact in the Roosevelt Library's collection is the President's personal Study, an intact historic interior that remains unchanged from the time of Roosevelt's occupancy. The Roosevelt Library is our nation's first presidential library, and is the only presidential library ever used by a sitting president. From his Study in the Library, Roosevelt delivered two of his famous "fireside chats" and two radio addresses to the American people.

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A centerpiece of the presidential library museum is the Oval Office Collection: the original desk, chair, and accoutrements that graced the FDR's public office in the White House. No other presidential library has an original Oval Office Desk. At this desk FDR signed landmark legislation for the TVA and GI bill, the declarations of war with Germany and Japan, and hosted over 800 press conferences.

The Roosevelt family quarters and FDR's private office at the White House contained at least another 82 items of furniture, prints and paintings, ship models, and decorative items that made their way to the Roosevelt presidential library beginning in 1940. Once conservation is complete, the White House collections will be rehoused in improved storage and used in future exhibitions at the Library and loaned to other institutions.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is dedicated to preserving historical material and providing innovative educational programs, community events, and public outreach. It is one of thirteen presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. For information about the FDR Presidential Library call (800) 337-8474 or visit www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu.

The Roosevelt Institute is dedicated to carrying forward the values and vision of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. With offices in Hyde Park, New York, New York City, and Washington, D.C., the Institute enjoys a special relationship with the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum. It also works across the country to nurture leaders in public service inspired by the models of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, through a network of 80 progressive college campus-based think tank organizations that include more than 8,000 student members. The Institute also promotes fresh thinking in critical areas of economic and social policy, building new paradigms for the 21st century based on the Roosevelts' values and vision. For information about the Roosevelt Institute call (212) 444-9130 or visit www.rooseveltinstitute.org.

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Save America's Treasures grants are awarded in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). With these funds, organizations and agencies conserve significant U.S. cultural and historic treasures, which illustrate, interpret and are associated with the great events, ideas, and individuals that contribute to our nation's history and culture.

For more information on this project please contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745. For questions regarding the SAT grant program, or to comment on this or any other proposed SAT project, please contact Hampton Tucker, Chief, Historic Preservation Grants, NPS, at (202) 354-2067.

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